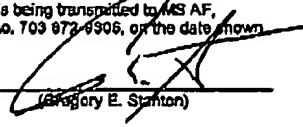


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to MS AF,  
Commissioner for Patents, via facsimile no. 703 672-6906, on the date shown  
below.  
Dated: September 23, 2004 Signature:   
(Gregory E. Stanton)

Docket No.: 06005/35530  
(PATENT)

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

**HAVEKOST et al.**

Application No.: 09/777,225

Art Unit: 2113

Filed: February 5, 2001

Examiner: C. S. McCarthy

**For: HIERARCHICAL FAILURE MANAGEMENT  
FOR PROCESS CONTROL SYSTEMS**

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Final Office Action dated March 24, 2004, please amend the  
above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on  
Page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 10 of this paper.